



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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SPHAERALCEA MUNROANA
WHITE-STEMMED GLOBE-MALLOW

White-stemmed Globe-mallow is a perennial with several stems that are 20-80 cm high and arising from a thick, branched taproot. The alternate, petiolate leaves have spade-shaped blades that are 2-6 cm long with shallowly lobed and coarsely toothed margins. Foliage is covered with short, grayish hairs. 1-few short-stalked flowers are borne in clusters on a leafy, spike-like inflorescence. Each of the orange to reddish flowers has a 5-lobed calyx with star-like hairs, and 5 separate, oblong, shallowly bilobed petals that are 1-2 cm long. Numerous stamens are united into a tube surrounding the style. The numerous stigmas are globose. The fruit is a flattened-globose capsule that is ca. 3 mm long. Seeds have a honey-comb pattern. Flowering in June-July.

Distinguished from the more common *SPHAERALCEA COCCINEA* in having generally taller stems greater than 20 cm, and shallowly lobed leaf blades. *SIDALCEA OREGANA* differs in having pink flowers and linear stigmas.